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Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**Twenty-first session**

Vienna, 23-27 April 2012

Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda**

Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions: work of the working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**Note by the Secretariat******Summary*

The present note was prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2011/258, in which the Council extended the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 52/13, 54/10 and 54/17 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 18/3, 20/1 and 20/9. The present note covers the work of the working group between 20 October 2011 and 30 January 2012.

* E/CN.7/2012/1.

** E/CN.15/2012/1.

*** The present document was submitted late owing to the convening of the meeting of the working group on 30 January 2012.



I. Deliberations

1. From 20 October 2011 to 30 January 2012, the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime held three informal meetings. It continued to consider issues under the items of the agenda as approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2011/258 and by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in its resolution 52/13 and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in its resolution 18/3 and in accordance with the terms of reference annexed to those two resolutions of the Commissions, as well as with the provisions contained in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 54/10 and 54/17 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 20/1 and 20/9.
2. At the meeting of the working group held on 20 October 2011, the Secretariat made a presentation on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2012-2013 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and addressed questions and comments by delegations, including with respect to forthcoming regional programmes, budget allocations for specific subprogrammes, reasons for upgrading and creating posts and options to increase burden-sharing in support of UNODC field offices.
3. At the meeting of the working group held on 16 November 2011, the Secretariat made a presentation on action taken to enhance the financial sustainability of the UNODC field office network, highlighting best practices, and encouraged host countries to provide material and financial support in that regard. At the same meeting, the working group achieved consensus on the text of the draft strategy for the period 2012-2015 for UNODC, which was submitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened fifty-fourth session and to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its reconvened twentieth session. The Commissions recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a draft resolution by which the Council would approve the strategy for the period 2012-2015 for UNODC.
4. At the meeting of the working group held on 30 January 2012, discussions focused on the regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries for the period 2011-2014, preparations for the new regional programme for Southern Africa and the new comprehensive strategy to combat trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants. The working group was also informed of the normative evaluation tools of the Independent Evaluation Unit of UNODC, including its evaluation website and road map to institute an evaluation culture throughout the Office. The working group further considered measures to improve the gender balance at the senior level within UNODC, following up on recommendation 11 of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Review of management and administration in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime" (JIU/REP/2010/10).
5. At its meeting on 30 January, the working group was also provided with an advance version of the report of the Secretariat on implementation of resolutions and decisions relating to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime adopted during the period 2008-2011 in which action by the Office was

requested (E/CN.7/2012/15), prepared pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 54/10, for consideration by the Commission at its fifty-fifth session. The report provides information on the implementation status of resolutions and decisions relating to the drug programme of UNODC adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council or the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in the period 2008-2011 in which action by UNODC was requested. Participants were informed that a similar report was being prepared on the status of implementation of resolutions and decisions relating to the crime programme of UNODC (E/CN.15/2012/2), pursuant to Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 20/1, for consideration by the Commission at its twenty-first session, and that an advance version of that report would be made available to the working group at a subsequent meeting. Those reports, which followed the model of notes that had been prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted in the period 2003-2007 (E/CN.7/2008/13 and E/CN.15/2008/18), also facilitated the review of mandates entrusted to the Office, as called for in recommendation 2 of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU/REP/2010/10).

II. Organizational and administrative matters

6. The working group held three informal meetings during the reporting period, on 20 October and 16 November 2011 and 30 January 2012. Further meetings were scheduled for 20 February and 26 March 2012.

7. The Secretariat continued to provide documents and information to the working group by electronic means and in hard copy, including through a public web page (www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/wg-governance-finance-2.html) and a secure web page for Member States (www.unodc.org/missions/en/wggf/index.html), set up and maintained by the Secretariat for the use of the working group.